

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES 204 NEW JOBS IN WAYNE COUNTY ***JDIG Helps Andrew Corporation Expand and Retain NC Workforce***

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley today announced that Andrew Corporation, a global designer, manufacturer and supplier of communications equipment and services, will move into a new facility in Wayne County in 2006 that will employ approximately 430 workers, representing 204 new jobs and an investment by Andrew of \$11.5 million over six years. The move will enable more than 200 workers currently employed by Andrew in Smithfield to keep their jobs when that plant closes in 2006.

“Andrew Corporation’s decision to remain in North Carolina will enhance our already strong presence in the information technology sector and provide more than 200 new jobs for the state,” Easley said. “North Carolina is a major center for telecommunications, networking and software development with 2,300 IT companies employing more than 200,000 highly skilled workers.”

Andrew Corporation (NASDAQ: ANDW) is an Illinois-based, S&P 500 company that employs more than 11,000 workers in 35 countries. Its sales for fiscal 2005 totaled \$1.96 billion. In 2003, Andrew bought selected assets of Channel Master, LLC, which went bankrupt, including Channel Master’s Johnston County plant that was making a variety of satellite communications related products. The Smithfield building is under the control of a bankruptcy judge and is scheduled to close next year.

Andrew, whose satellite communications group manufactures satellite antenna systems and electronics for home, commercial and military markets, considered moving the Smithfield jobs to South Carolina, Mexico or Illinois before deciding to locate in Wayne County.

“Andrew is pleased that the support of the state and various local officials have enabled us to keep our satellite communications manufacturing operations here in North Carolina,” said Jude Panetta, group president, Satellite Communications, Andrew Corporation. “We look forward to the exciting opportunities this new location will provide for our employees and our overall ability to support customers from a state-of-the-art, highly efficient manufacturing facility.”

The 204 new jobs are primarily in manufacturing, but also include production support, professional staff and engineers. While wages will vary by job function, the expected average wage of the new positions is \$540 a week, not including benefits, which is higher than the Wayne County average of \$481 a week, not including benefits.